

Greg's Fox E-Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Holiday Closings	1
Green Fest	1
IRS Imposter Scam	2
Home Improvement Scams	2
Drug Take Back Event	2

BUDGET CALENDAR



Thursday, April 16

Capital Budget Public Hearing
Banneker Room
7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 20

Work Session Capital Budget
(All Departments except Education)
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

County Executive Presents Budget

Friday, April 24

Work Session Capital Budget
(If needed)
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 29

Public Hearing Operating Budget
(All Departments except Education)
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 30

Work Session
Revenues & Fees; Funds; Operating
Legislative & Judicial
8:30 a.m.

GREETINGS

Our offices will be **closed on Friday, April 3rd**. We will be back at work on **Monday, April 6th** to contemplate the County's budget for next year. See Budget schedule on the left.

Spring Break is this week and the weather is finally warming up. Enjoy time with families and friends as you celebrate Passover and Easter.

GREG



HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Howard County government offices, senior centers and the animal shelter will be **closed** in observance of the Good Friday holiday on **Friday, April 3**. However, the courts and the **Alpha Ridge Landfill will be open and regular trash and recycling services will occur as scheduled.**

County parks, community centers, Kiwanis-Wallas Hall, Robinson Nature Center and Meadowbrook Athletic Center will be open on Good Friday; however, all will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 5. **All parking regulations and fees will be in effect on Good Friday, but not on Easter Sunday.**

The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffer 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

County offices will re-open at regular business hours on Monday, April 6.

8TH ANNUAL GREEN FEST

This year's **GreenFest** will offer something for everyone, featuring roughly 90 vendors, exhibits, workshops, demonstrations, free electronics recycling collections and tips on how to reduce waste and green your home, workplace and lifestyle. Used cell phones, eye glasses, bikes, reusable building supplies, binoculars and other items will be collected to help those in need.

This year's theme is: "Living with Wildlife" and will take place **Saturday, April 18**, from **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Howard Community College.**

Green Fest is **free and open to the public**. For more information and a schedule of events, visit www.hcgreenfest.org.



We're on the Web!

[County Council](#)

Watch Us!

[Click Here](#)



COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, April 6

Legislative Session
Banneker Room
7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 13

Monthly Meeting
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:30 a.m.

Monday, March 16

Legislative Public Hearing
Banneker Room
7:30 p.m.

GREG FOX
DISTRICT 5
HOWARD COUNTY
COUNCIL

[Website](#)

gfox@howardcountymd.gov

3430 Court House Drive,
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone 410-313-2001



IRS IMPOSTER SCAM

The Howard County Department of Citizen Services is warning residents to be on alert for **calls from individuals who claim they represent the IRS** or other government agencies.

In this new variation, the caller claims to be with the IRS and needs to verify your refund by confirming your refund amount, along with your bank routing and account information. To taxpayers who are expecting a refund, this may appear to be a routine administrative call.

For more information and/or to report a potential scam, contact the Office of Consumer Affairs at 410-313-6420 or visit the Office's "Scam Alert!" website at www.howardcountymd.gov/scamalert.htm.

TIPS TO AVOID SCAMS

The Howard County Police Department is encouraging residents to protect themselves against potential solicitation scams, such as **home improvement and tree trimming**, as they carry out seasonal maintenance on their homes this spring.

Residents should be suspicious of unsolicited door-to-door offers that require payment up front.

Along with the Howard County Office of Consumer Affairs, HCPD encourages residents to consider the following tips:

- ✓ Be wary of unsolicited offers or services you didn't seek out.
- ✓ Verify contractor or tree services licenses with the Maryland Home Improvement Commission or the Maryland Department of Natural Resources before making any agreement
- ✓ Don't feel pressured to make a decision on the spot.
- ✓ If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

DRUG TAKE BACK EVENT

Howard County Police Department and HC Drug Free are teaming up to hold the next Drug Take Back Day on **Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.** at the Gary Arthur Community Center in Glenwood. For all drop off locations call 410-313-2200.

The police department also is announcing the installation of three permanent disposal boxes at the two district police stations and at the community center in Glenwood.

Drug Take Back events, like the one on April 11, allows residents to dispose of unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications safely and anonymously. The new permanent boxes will be fixtures maintained by the police department that will allow residents to drop off unwanted medications 365 days a year.

